













The Joy of the Lord is my strength

Nehemiah 8:10

Joy

It is the experience of well-being that springs from the deep-down confidence that God is in perfect control of everything, for my good and His glory.

11 I have told you these things so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

1 I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit, He prunes to make it even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

4 Remain in Me, and I will remain in you. Just as no branch can bear fruit by itself unless it remains in the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me. 5 I am the vine and you are the branches. The one who remains in Me, and I in him, will bear much fruit. For apart from Me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers. Such branches are gathered up, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, proving yourselves to be My disciples.

9 As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Remain in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. 11 I have told you these things so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

Remain

The giving up of oneself to be ruled, taught and led, and so resting in the arms of Everlasting Love

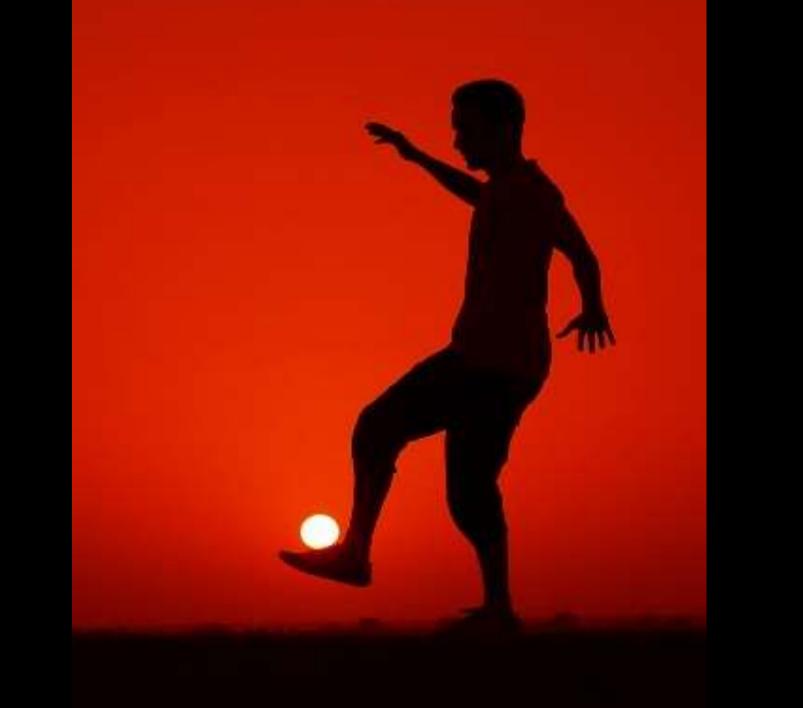
Being "in Christ"
Being "born again"
Being a true believer
Being a Christ follower
Being a disciple

Ephesians 2

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Ephesians 2

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.



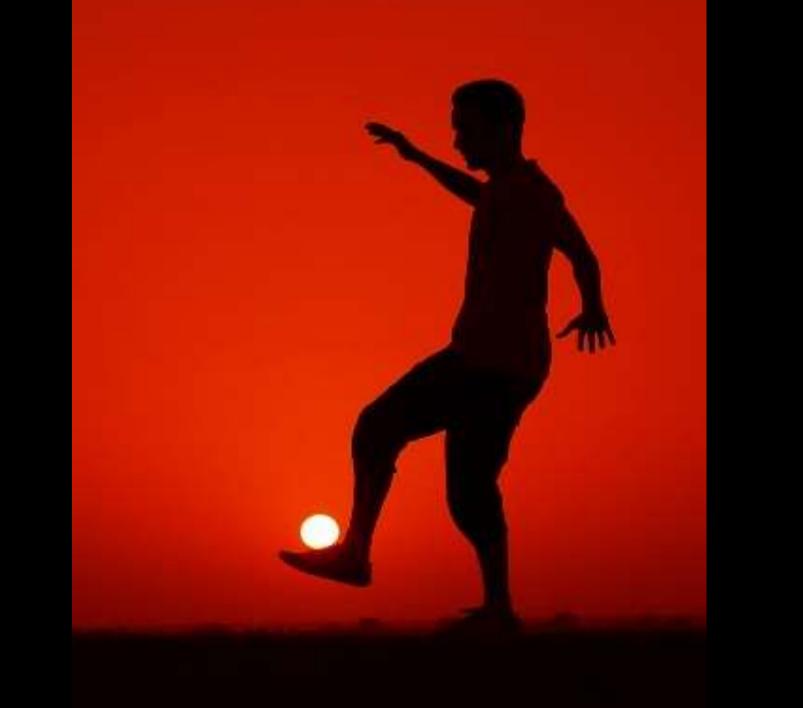
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Total Dependence

"For apart from Me you can do nothing."

Philippians 1

3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,



Fruit

"The one who remains in Me, and I in him, will bear much fruit."

John 15

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will remain

Fruit:

- 1. Fruit of the Spirit
 - having the character of Christ
- 2. Good works that Glorify God

Fruit

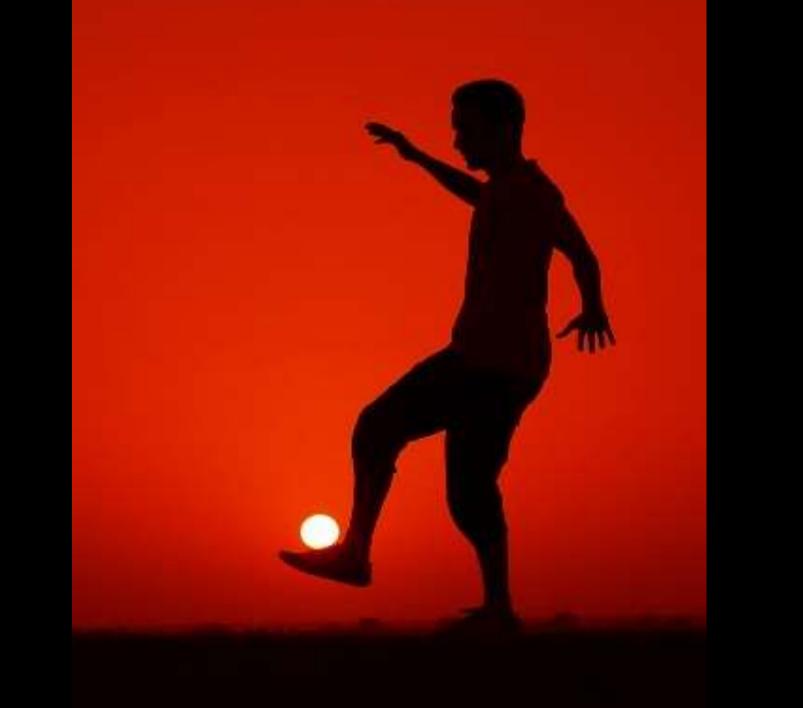
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Ephesians 2

10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Fruit:

- 1. Fruit of the Spirit
 - having the character of Christ
- 2. Good works that Glorify God
- 3. Obedience to Christ's commands
- 4. Making disciples



Hope

"If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers. Such branches are gathered up, thrown into the fire, and burned."

Hebrews 12

2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

